



M E D I A R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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2011 Blue Ribbon Schools Award Nominees Named

Nashville, TN – Six Tennessee schools join the newest class of potential recipients for the 2011 Blue Ribbon Schools award. The national honor recognizes academic excellence in schools that have either performed in the top 10 percent in the state, or made exceptional progress in academic achievement. Nominated schools are invited by the U.S. Secretary of Education to complete the award application and will be reviewed by a federal assessment panel to determine national winners.

“These schools have taken Tennessee’s increased expectations and tougher benchmarks and used them as motivation to engage classrooms, improve student achievement, and provide high quality education,” Education Commissioner Bruce Opie said. “We are very proud of these schools and believe that they represent our statewide commitment to prepare every Tennessee student for future success.”

The 2011 Blue Ribbon School nominees are:

Category	2011 Nominated Schools
High Performing: Schools in the top 10% of the State	Hume Fogg High School , Metro-Davidson Page High School , Williamson County Schools
Improving Achievement: Schools with at least 40% disadvantaged students that have dramatically improved student achievement to high levels.	South Greene High School , Greene County Schools Frazier Elementary , Rhea County Fairmont , Johnson City Schools Morristown West High School , Hamblen County Schools

Winners will be announced in fall 2011 and honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. with a plaque and flag signifying their accomplishment.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools that are either high performing or have improved student achievement to high levels, especially among disadvantaged students. The program is part of a larger Department of Education effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about best school leadership and teaching practices. For more information on the Blue Ribbon Schools program, visit <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/index.html>.

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